

**HOW BISMARCK SAVED A SERVANT'S LIFE.**  
HIS OLD VALET TELLS AN INCIDENT IN THE PRINCE'S EARLY MILITARY CAREER.

From The Chicago Tribune.—  
Mr. Hildebrandt, No. 34 West Division-st., for fifteen years the attendant of Bismarck, heard the news of the death of his old master early yesterday from a reporter for "The Tribune." Mr. Hildebrandt is seventy-seven years old, nearly six years younger than Bismarck, and he well knew from his master's life that Bismarck had died.

"The greatest of men and the kindest of masters is gone."

Then in a trembling voice he read the last letter he had received from the famous Chancellor. The letter was neatly framed and hung under an autograph and photograph of Bismarck in the little parlour of the Hildebrandt home. It is a friendly letter, it returned to him, and he said:

"The greatest of men and the kindest of masters is gone."

The letter jokingly referred to an occasion when Bismarck, as a young student, graduated at Harvard.

"Then it spoke of Augustus's first wife, whom Bismarck admired as a "good and beautiful girl."

There were kind words, too, for "Leib-Hildebrandt's" second wife, and then a guess on the writer's part that Augustus's son was a real good Yankee.

After Bismarck's college days and his trip to France and England, in the loco of a soldier's trade, he became a lieutenant of lancers in the Landwehr, and selected Ferdinand Hildebrandt as his attendant.

There were military misadventures, near and far, and Bismarck was his commanding officer. After the exercises one day, the lancers were ordered to take their tired and heated horses and those of the officers into the river, to bathe them. The horses, however, the soldiers hesitated among them Ferdinand, who, mounted on his own horse, was leading that of his lieutenant.

"Go ahead, Ferdinand," said Bismarck. "I will be with you."

Ferdinand, with confidence in his master, rode into the water. He was caught in the rush of waters and buried from his horse. He sank once, twice, and third time, his full uniform, cavalry boots, spurs and all. His tunic off his coat as he sank to the spot where his servant had disappeared and plunged boldly. He came up, dragging his master to the shore with great difficulty.

It was from his service in the Prussian Hussar Society for saving human life throughout his life, he was that medal, lauding the memory of honest heroes and monarchs he honored in having him accept.

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